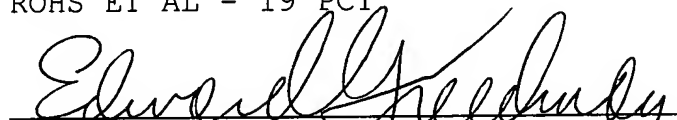


REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

By this Preliminary Amendment, the application has been amended to conform with U.S. practice, the cross-reference to related applications has been inserted on page 1, claims 1 through 47 have been cancelled and claims 48 through 129 have been added. No new matter has been introduced. Entry of this amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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COLLARD & ROE, P.C.
1077 Northern Boulevard
Roslyn, New York 11576
(516) 365-9802

Allison C. Collard, Reg.No. 22,532
Edward R. Freedman, Reg.No. 26,048
Attorneys for Applicants

Express Mail No. EV 621 913 605 US
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I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10, on the date indicated above, and is addressed to the MAIL STOP: PCT PATENT APPLICATION, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.



Ingrid Mittendorf